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chorus receives recognition in accordance with the recent plea of Professor White. No attempt is made to rival the poetic translations of Rogers, Frere, and Tyrrell; we are offered a prose translation with Shakesperean flavor, in recognition of the fact that "in the Elizabethan drama the most Aristophanic characters (e.g., Falstaff) invariably employ prose." The exhaustive commentary reflects the same thorough acquaintance with the Aristophanic literature, the same eminently sane and discriminating judgment, the same nice appreciation of the requirements of the various comic situations, which we have learned to associate with the editor of the *Wasps*. Very gratifying is the editor's announcement of his intention to bring out a complete commentary on Aristophanes.

EARNEST CARY

SMITH COLLEGE

Lycophronis Alexandra. Recensuit EDUARDUS SCHEER. Vol. II scholia continens. Berlin: Weidmann, 1908. Pp. lxiv + 398. M. 18.

With the publication of Vol. II containing the scholia, Professor Eduard Scheer completes his edition of Lycophron, the first volume of which appeared in 1881. We thus have, brought to a conclusion, a thoroughly satisfactory edition of this difficult author prepared by a man who has made a study of him for more than thirty years. The *Alexandra* of Lycophron, perhaps more than any other work which has come down from antiquity, has especial need of scholia for its elucidation. It is, it will be remembered, a poem of 1,474 lines in iambic trimeter verse of which the first 30 and the last 14 are supposed to be addressed to Priam by a soldier appointed to guard Cassandra. The princess has rushed out to the hills and poured forth her *δυσφάτους αἰνυμάτων οἶμας* which, when repeated, make up the rest of the poem. The woes of the Trojans, the misfortunes of the Greeks, both at Troy and after their return home, and finally the wars to come between the East and the West, between Asia and Europe, are all foretold in language by no means easy to understand. The nature of the subject, the frenzied ravings of a half-mad prophetess, would lead us to expect recondite allusions and general obscurity; and, in fact, a subject could hardly be found upon which an Alexandrian poet would have a better opportunity to display his erudition. The need of explanatory notes must, therefore, have been felt from the beginning, and it is not surprising that in the course of time a large body of scholia should have accumulated. In Scheer's edition the text of the scholia alone amounts to 398 octavo pages. What astonishes us is that the poem itself should have survived.

Two paraphrases are extant besides the scholia, part of which are ancient and part due to the labors of John Tzetzes and his brother

Isaac, now rehabilitated. All this material is minutely examined and the history and composition of the various parts discussed in an interesting and valuable introduction of 64 pages. The ancient scholia have come down in full in two manuscripts: Marcianus 476, which Scheer designates as *s*; and Neapolitanus II D 4, which he calls *s*³. Two manuscripts consulted by Tzetzes, *s*⁴ and *s*⁵, belong to the same class. In addition there are the occasional notes added by Nicetas (*s*²); and *s*⁶ used by the unknown grammarian of the fifteenth century in editing Tzetzes; besides Vaticanus 1307 (V), which is a copy of *s*. One manuscript of Isaac Tzetzes is cited and four of his brother John, whose library Scheer attempts to reconstruct. He accepts Reitzenstein's conclusion that the older paraphrase was based in great part upon the mutilated scholia of Sextio, and not upon the version which now exists; and Sextio, he thinks, drew from Philogenes, to whom we are indebted for whatever learning of the ancient grammarians is still to be found in the scholia. Philogenes thus becomes something more than a name. So, too, he attempts to drag Orus from his obscurity. Theon has been somewhat better known for a long time. The resemblances to various passages in the scholia to the *Aeneid* are also examined. There still remain, however, many points to settle.

Of the actual editing of the volume little can be said by way of criticism. The text of the different manuscripts is given, with the apparatus criticus at the foot of the page. It is a thorough and careful piece of work done by a man entirely familiar with his subject. His wide reading is shown by the numerous references, noted in the margin, which include not only the Greek authors, but very often scholia. References to the scholia of three or four different writers may be found cited for a single passage. The one thing which may be missed is an *index rerum*. Such an index would make the volume more accessible to other than Lycophron scholars; and its absence is only partially made up for by the index of the writers mentioned in the text. But this is a mere trifle. We are fortunate in having so excellent an edition of the scholia to Lycophron, and it is much to be hoped that other Greek authors may fare as well.

WILLIAM N. BATES

Neue Untersuchungen über Platon. Von CONSTANTIN RITTER.
München: Oskar Beck, 1910. Pp. viii + 424.

This republication of the studies in Plato written since his epoch-making *Untersuchungen* of 1889 is designed by Professor Ritter to accompany the crowning work for which all the rest have been a preparation—his *Platon*, which will be reviewed in our next number. The studies included in this volume deal with the *Sophist*, the *Politicus*, the *Philebus*,